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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/562,619	05/26/2006	Jan Boer	Boer-10-6-6-6	6190
47386 7590 07/29/2008 RYAN, MASON & LEWIS, LLP 1300 POST ROAD SUITE 205 FAIRFIELD, CT 06824				
EXAMINER				
ELPENORD, CANDAL				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2616				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
07/29/2008		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/562,619

Applicant(s)

BOER ET AL.

Examiner

CANDAL ELPENORD

Art Unit

2616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 May 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-41 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 5, 18 and 29 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17, 19-28 and 30-41 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on 22 December 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date December 22, 2005.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-41 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. **Claims 1-4, 6, 8-13, 14-17, 19, 21, 38-41** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Gardner et al (US 2005/0233709).

Regarding claims 1, 14, Gardner '709 a method (noted: method for transmitting where two or more transmitting antennas may be used, paragraph 0022, 0072, 0077, fig. 3 to fig. 4) for transmitting one or more training symbols (Noted: transmission of long training symbol as referenced by fig. 4, L2, L3, and L4, paragraphs 0034-0038) in a multiple antenna communication system (fig. 3, MIMO Antennas 102, 104, fig. 8, see Transmitter 0, and Transmitter 1, paragraphs 0056, 0022), said method comprising the step of transmitting from a transmitter having N antennas (noted: method for transmitting where two or more transmitting antennas may be used, paragraph 0022, 0072, 0077, fig. 3 to fig. 4, see fig. 8, Transmitter 0, Transmitter 1) at least one training

symbol using at least one antenna, such that said at least one training symbol can be interpreted by a receiver having M antennas (fig. 3, Receiving Legacy Antenna, paragraphs 0022, 0025, noted: receiver detecting the received long training symbols, paragraph 0034, "the Signal field provides the receiver with information about the length of the packet and how long to defer", paragraph 0055, fig. 1, fig. 4, and fig. 8), where M is less than N (noted: more than one transmit antenna or single receive antenna, paragraph 0022, lines 7-14) and wherein said at least one training symbol comprises a plurality of subcarriers (see, "L4 long training symbol containing plurality of subcarriers", paragraph 0052, lines 6-12) and wherein each of said subcarriers (see, "L4 long training symbol containing plurality of subcarriers", paragraph 0052, lines 6-12) are active on only one of said N antennas at a given time (see, the receiver operates on only one of the 20 MHz channel to decode part of the packet, paragraph 0054, lines 4-9).

Regarding claims 2, 15, Gardner '709 the method of claim 1, wherein said receiver is a SISO receive (see, SISO legacy device, paragraph 0028, fig. 3, Receiving Legacy Antenna, paragraphs 0022, 0025, noted: receiver detecting the received long training symbols, paragraph 0034, "the Signal field provides the receiver with information about the length of the packet and how long to defer", paragraph 0055, fig. 1, fig. 4, and fig. 8).

Regarding claims 3, 16, Gardner '709 the method, wherein said at least one training symbol is an 802.11 a/g training symbol (noted: transmitting of a preamble

using legacy device as referenced by IEEE 802.111 and IEEE 802.11g, paragraphs 0027-0028, 0062).

Regarding claims 4, 17, Gardner '709 the method, wherein said at least one training symbol comprises at least one long training symbol (Noted: transmission of long training symbol as referenced by fig. 4, L2, L3, and L4, paragraphs 0034-0038) and at least one SIGNAL field (Noted: Signal according to IEEE 802.11a, paragraph 0078, 0005, fig. 1, Signal Filed, paragraph 0059).

Regarding claims 6, 19, Gardner '709 the method, wherein said SIGNAL field (Noted: Signal according to IEEE 802.11a, paragraph 0078, 0005, fig. 1, Signal Filed, paragraph 0059) indicates a duration that a receiver should defer until a subsequent transmission (fig. 3, Receiving Legacy Antenna, paragraphs 0022, lines 6-14, 0025, noted: receiver detecting the received long training symbols, paragraph 0034, "the Signal filed provides the receiver with information about the length of the packet and how long to defer", paragraph 0055, fig. 1, fig. 4, and fig. 8).

Regarding claim 8, Gardner '709 the method, whereby a lower order receiver can interpret said transmitted duration (fig. 3, Receiving Legacy Antenna, paragraphs 0022, 0025, noted: receiver detecting the received long training symbols, paragraph 0034, "the Signal filed provides the receiver with information about the length of the

packet and how long to defer", paragraph 0055, fig. 1, fig. 4, and fig. 8).

Regarding claim 9, Gardner '709 the method, wherein said duration is represented as a duration of said transmission (see, "duration of the packet", paragraph 0059, lines 1-6).

Regarding claim 10, Gardner '709 the method, wherein said duration is represented as a length of said transmission (see, "the Signal field provides the receiver with information about the length of the packet and thus how long to defer", paragraph 0054, lines 9-12).

Regarding claims 11, 21, Gardner '709 the method, wherein said SIGNAL field (Noted: Signal according to IEEE 802.11a, paragraph 0078, 0005, fig. 1, Signal Filed, paragraph 0059, fig. 8) indicates a number (see, signaling information indicating channel number, paragraph 0058, lines 15-17) of said antennas in said multiple antenna communication system (fig. 3, MIMO Antennas 102, 104, fig. 8, see Transmitter 0, and Transmitter 1, paragraphs 0056, 0022)

Regarding claim 12, Gardner '709 the method, wherein said number of said antennas allows said multiple antenna communication system to be scalable (noted: more than one transmit antenna or single receive antenna, paragraph 0022, lines 7-

14).

Regarding claim 13, Gardner '709 the method of claim 11, wherein said number of said antennas allows a receiver to correlate channel coefficients with corresponding transmit antennas (see, at the receiver side, channel estimates for each transmitter where an impulse response is generated, paragraph 0071).

Regarding claim 38, Gardner '709 discloses a method for transmitting data (noted: transmission of multiple data streams using IEEE 802.11 and higher data devices, paragraph 009-0010) in a multiple antenna noted: method for transmitting where two or more transmitting antennas may be used, paragraph 0022, 0072, 0077, fig. 3 to fig. 4, see fig. 8, Transmitter 0, Transmitter 1) communication system having N transmit antennas (fig. 3, MIMO Antennas 102, 104, fig. 8, see Transmitter 0, and Transmitter 1, paragraphs 0056, 0022), said method comprising the step of transmitting a legacy preamble (noted: transmission of preamble using multiple antennas, paragraph 0021-0022) having at least one long training symbol (fig. 4, Long Training Symbol L2, paragraph 0035) and at least one additional long training symbol (fig. 4, Long Training Symbol L3, paragraph 0035) on each of said N transmit antennas (fig. 3, MIMO Antennas 102, 104, fig. 8, see Transmitter 0, and Transmitter 1, paragraphs 0056, 0022), such that said training symbols (Noted: transmission of long training symbols as referenced by fig. 4, L2, L3, and L4, paragraphs 0034-0038) can be interpreted by a receiver having M antennas (fig. 3, Receiving Legacy Antenna, paragraphs 0022, lines

6-14, 0025, noted: receiver detecting the received long training symbols, paragraph 0034, "the Signal field provides the receiver with information about the length of the packet and how long to defer", paragraph 0055, fig. 1, fig. 4, and fig. 8), where M is less than N (noted: more than one transmit antenna or single receive antenna, paragraph 0022, lines 7-14) and wherein said at least one training symbol comprises a plurality of N subcarriers (see, "L4 long training symbol containing plurality of subcarriers", paragraph 0052, lines 6-12) and wherein each of said subcarriers are active on only one of said N antennas at a given time (see, the receiver operates on only one of the 20 MHz channel to decode part of the packet, paragraph 0054, lines 4-9).

Regarding claim 39, Gardner '709 discloses the method, wherein said legacy preamble further comprises at least one short training symbol (fig. 1, and fig. 8, Short Training Symbol, paragraphs 0005, 0034, 0056).

Regarding claim 40, Gardner '709 discloses the method, wherein said legacy preamble further comprises at least one SIGNAL field (Noted: Signal according to IEEE 802.11a, paragraph 0078, 0005, fig. 1, Signal Field, paragraph 0059)..

Regarding claim 41, Gardner '709 discloses the method, wherein said legacy preamble is an 802.11 a/g preamble (noted: transmitting of a preamble using legacy device as referenced by IEEE 802.111 and IEEE 802.11g, paragraphs 0027-0028, 0062).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

6. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

7. **Claims 7, 20** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gardner et al (US 2005/0233709 A1) in view of Kadous et al (US 2004/0121730 A1).

Regarding claims 7, 20, Gardner '709 discloses wherein said at least one training symbol comprises said a plurality of subcarriers as discussed in above paragraph.

However, Kadous '730 from the same field of endeavor discloses the above claimed features: and wherein said transmitting (fig. 3A, transmission of symbol streams diagonally from the transmitting antennas, paragraph 0076) step further comprises the step of diagonally loading said subcarriers (see, transmission of symbol streams diagonally, paragraph 0076) across said N antennas (fig. 3, Transmit Antennas 1-4).

In view of the above, having the method for transmitting preamble comprises of plurality of symbols in order to provide co-existence between 802.11 devices and higher data rate MIMO devices of Gardner '709, the transmission scheme for multicarrier MIMO systems of Kadous, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the features of Gardner '709 by using features as taught by Kadous '730 in order to provide transmit diversity for each transmitted symbol stream as suggested in paragraph 0091, 0097.

Regarding claim 20, please see the Examiner comment with respect to claim 7 as discussed above.

8. **Claims 22-28** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gardner et al (US 2005/0233709) in view of Kadous et al (US 2004/0121730 A1).

Regarding claims 22, 26, Gardner '709 discloses a method for receiving data on at least one receive antenna (fig. 3, Receive Antenna 104) transmitted by a transmitter

(fig. 8, Transmitter 0) having a plurality of transmit antennas (fig. 3, MIMO Antennas 102, 104, fig. 8, see Transmitter 0, and Transmitter 1, paragraphs 0056, 0022) in a multiple antenna communication system ("MIMO transmitter comprising of two or more antennas", paragraph 0070, 0072, fig. 3, to fig. 4, fig. 8),, said method comprising the step of receiving an indication of a duration to defer until a subsequent transmission (noted: legacy receiver defers of incoming packet signals for a time", paragraph 0025, "the Signal field provides the receiver with information about the length of the packet and how long to defer", paragraph 0055, 0059), said indication transmitted such that said indication can be interpreted by a lower order receiver (noted: the receiver decoding the signal field which provides it with information about how long to defer, paragraph 0055, 0078), wherein a SIGNAL field (Noted: Signal according to IEEE 802.11a, paragraph 0078, 0005, fig. 1, Signal Field, paragraph 0059).. is diagonally loaded across said plurality of transmit antennas (fig. 3, MIMO Antennas 102, 104, fig. 8, see Transmitter 0, and Transmitter 1, paragraphs 0056, 0022); and deferring for said indicated duration (see, "the Signal field provides the receiver with information about the length of the packet and thus how long to defer", paragraph 0054, lines 9-12).

Regarding claims 23, 27, Gardner '709 discloses the method , wherein said method is performed by a SISO receiver (noted: the receiver decoding the long training symbols, paragraph 0077, 0071, "legacy SISO", paragraphs 0025-0029).

Regarding claims 24, 28, Gardner '709 the method, wherein said indication is transmitted in said a SIGNAL field that complies with the 802.11 a/g standards (Noted: signal field with a four microseconds duration, paragraph 0005, "the Signal filed provides the receiver with information about the length of the packet and how long to defer", paragraph 0055) that complies with the 802.11 a/g standards (noted: legacy wireless device that is compatible with IEEE 802.11a and 802.11g, paragraphs 0027).

Gardner '709 discloses all the claimed limitation with the exception of being silent with respect to claimed features: diagonally transmitting across the plurality of antennas.

However, Kadous '730 from the same field of endeavor discloses the above claimed features: transmitting diagonally (fig. 3A, transmission of symbol streams diagonally from the transmitting antennas, paragraph 0076) across the plurality of N antennas (see, transmission of symbol streams diagonally, paragraph 0076, fig. 3, Antennas 1-4).

In view of the above, having the method for transmitting preamble comprises of plurality of symbols in order to provide co-existence between 802.11 devices and higher data rate MIMO devices of Gardner '709, the transmission scheme for multicarrier MIMO systems of Kadous, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the features of Gardner '709 by substituting the signal into the symbol streams and then transmits it diagonally by using features as taught by Kadous '730 in order to provide transmit diversity for each transmitted symbol stream as suggested in paragraph 0091, 0097.

9. **Claims 30-37** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gardner et al (US 2005/0233709 A1) in view of Giannakis et al (US 2005/0002461 A1).

Regarding claims 30, 34 Gardner '709 discloses a method for communicating in a multiple antenna communication system (fig. 3, MIMO Antennas 102, 104, fig. 8, see Transmitter 0, and Transmitter 1, paragraphs 0056, 0022), said method comprising the step of transmitting one or more symbols (Noted: transmission of long training symbols as referenced by fig. 4, L2, L3, and L4, paragraphs 0034-0038) from a transmitter having N transmit branches (fig. 3, fig. 8, Transmitter 0, Transmitter 1); obtaining feedback (see, "channel estimates for each transmitter", paragraph 007) for at least one receiver indicating a performance (see "at the receiver side, channel estimates for each of the transmitter signal", paragraph 0071) for at least one of said N transmit branches (fig. 3, fig. 8, Transmitting Antennas 102, 104, paragraphs 022-0023, 0030-0031, 0056, "MIMO transmitter comprising of two or more antennas", paragraph 0070, 0072, fig. 3, Transmitter 0, Transmitter 1); and adapting one or more parameters of said at least one of said N transmit branches (fig. 3, fig. 8, Transmitting Antennas 102, 104, paragraphs 022-0023, 0030-0031, 0056, "MIMO transmitter comprising of two or more antennas", paragraph 0070, 0072, fig. 3, Transmitter 0, Transmitter 1).

Regarding claims 32, 36, Garner '709 discloses the method of claim 30, wherein said one or mote parameters includes a modulation scheme (see, signaling information such as the transmitter multi-band mode, data rate, coding rate, paragraph 0058, lines 15-17) for said at least one of said N transmit branches (fig. 3, fig. 8,

Transmitting Antennas 102, 104, paragraphs 022-0023, 0030-0031, 0056, "MIMO transmitter comprising of two or more antennas", paragraph 0070, 0072, Transmitter 0, Transmitter 1).

Regarding claims 33, 37, the method of claim 30, wherein said one or more parameters includes an encoding rate (see, "coding rate", paragraph 0058, lines 15-18) for said at least one of said N transmit branches (fig. 3, fig. 8, Transmitting Antennas 102, 104, paragraphs 022-0023, 0030-0031, 0056, "MIMO transmitter comprising of two or more antennas", paragraph 0070, 0072, Transmitter 0, Transmitter 1).

Gardner '709 discloses all the claimed limitation with the exception of being silent with respect to claimed features: and adapting one or more parameters of said at least one of said N transmit branches.

Giannakis '461 from the same field of endeavor discloses the above claimed features: and adapting one or more parameters (see, "wireless channel estimate", paragraphs 0008, 0010, 0025) of said at least one of said N transmit branches (fig. 1, see Transmitters 4, See, "channel estimation unit for estimating the wireless communication channel based on the training symbols, outputting the estimated symbols based on the estimate of the wireless communication channel, paragraphs 0008, 0010, 0025).

In view of the above, having the method for transmitting preamble comprises of plurality of symbols in order to provide co-existence between 802.11 devices and higher data rate MIMO devices of Gardner '709, the channel estimation techniques for transmissions of block of training symbols of Giannakis '461, it would have been

obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the features of Gardner '709 by using features as taught by Giannakis '461 in order to provide the estimation of the channel for transmissions of block of training symbols, to transmit the estimated block of training symbols based the channel estimation as suggested in paragraph 0025.

10. **Claims 31, 35** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gardner et al (US 2005/0233709 A1) in view of Giannakis et al (US 2005/0002461 A1) as applied to claims 30, 35 above, and further in view of Crawford et al (US 2003/0002471 A1).

Gardner '709 and Giannakis '461 discloses all the claimed limitations with the exception of being silent with respect to claimed features:

Regarding claims 31,35, wherein said one or mote parameters includes a number of active transmit branches.

Crawford '471 form the same field of endeavor discloses the above claimed features: **Regarding claims 31,35**, wherein said one or mote parameters includes a number of active transmit branches (see, antenna branch measures during the reception of signals, paragraph 0052, see, "selecting two best branches", paragraph 0051, 0064).

In view of the above, having the method for transmitting preamble comprises of plurality of symbols in order to provide co-existence between 802.11 devices and higher data rate MIMO devices of Gardner '709, the channel estimation techniques for

transmissions of block of training symbols of Giannakis '461, the method for estimating and diversity selection based on antenna probing of Crawford '471, it would have been obvious to modify the features of Gardner '709 with Giannakis '461 by using features as taught by Crawford '471 in order to provide diversity selection of antenna branches as suggested in paragraph 0018.

Conclusion

11. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Li et al (US 7,110,350 B2) and Marzetta et al (US 2004/0192216 A1).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CANDAL ELPENORD whose telephone number is (571)270-3123. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 7:30AM to 5:00PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kwang Bin Yao can be reached on (571) 272-3182. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2616

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Candal Elpenord/
Examiner, Art Unit 2616

/Kwang B. Yao/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2616